GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:410
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2003
CIRCULATION OF NEWSPAPERS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the circulation of newspapers has increased in the country and also their sale during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the share of main national dailies of advertisement revenue; and

(d) the percentage of advertisement revenue is being spent for Journalists Welfare?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 410 FOR R ON 21.08.2003.

(a) As per Annual Statements filed by newspapers with RNI, the circulation and sale of newspapers show the following trend during the last five years:

Year (Calendar)	No. of newspapers from whom Annual statements were received	Copies sold distributed	Free copies	Total circulation claimed
1997	5204	10,19,77,438	37,30,753	10,57,08,191
1998	6030	12,21,69,089	46,80,411	12,68,49,500
1999	6032	12,41,37,871	59,49,622	13,00,87,493
2000	5915	11,87,33,123	82,30,640	12,69,63,763
2001	4780	10,87,60,394	64,93,554	11,52,53,948

(b) State-wise circulation of newspapers is given in Annexure-I

(c) The Economic Times Entertainment (2001-2002) citing the World Advertising Trends 2000, has reported the total ad spent in print media for 1998 to be of the order of Rs.3820 crore.

(d) The management of newspapers is primarily responsible for the welfare of their employees including the journalists. The expenditure made by them on the welfare measures is not reported to the Ministry of I&B. However, the Government have set up in 2001-2002, a Journalists Welfare Fund in order to provide immediate relief to the family of journalists who lose their life or suffer permanent disability.